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Date of Deposit 11/18/03

Our File No. 9281-4697
Client Reference No. N US02172

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Katsuya Kikuri)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
Filing Date: Herewith)
For: Magnetic Head Having Marker Layer,)
And Tape-Medium Reading And)
Writing Apparatus)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant hereby submits references A1-A7 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication Nos. 2001-67610, 2001-93120 and 2001-84524 disclose a marker layer.

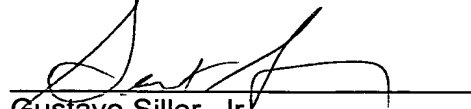
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicant reserves the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicant does not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicant's invention or that these references make Applicant's invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is

hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit
Account No. 23-1925.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the entire disclosure
of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gustavo Siller, Jr.', is written over a horizontal line.

Gustavo Siller, Jr.
Registration No. 32,305
Attorney for Applicant
Customer Number 00757

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
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FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	To be Assigned	9281-4697
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	Herewith.	
	APPLICANT(S): Katsuya Kikuri	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	2001/0043444	11/2001	Hideto Ando et al.		
	A2	6,115,216	09/2000	Hiroaki Yoda et al.		
	A3	4,763,210	08/1988	Frederic Grant		
	A4	6,342,993	01/2002	Junichi Sato		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	A5	2001-67610	03/2001	JP		X
	A6	2001-93120	04/2001	JP		X
	A7	2001-84524	03/2001	JP		X

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.